Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-08

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S E C R E T BUDAPEST 2824

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, HU, GW

SUBJECT: SCHMIDT-KADAR MEETING AT CSCE SUMMIT

REF: PARA 8, BONN 12801

- 1. FROM HUNGARIAN AND VARIOUS DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS AROUND TOWN, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT FROM HUNGARIAN POINT OF VIEW FEDERAL CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S BRIEF MEETING AT CSCE SUMMIT WITH FIRST SECRETARY JANOS KADAR WENT AMAZINGLY WELL.
- 2. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, VICE PRIME MINISTER SANDOR GASPAR UTILIZED HIS FRIENDLY AND CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH TRADE UNION LEADERS IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO CONDUCT INITIAL PROBE FOR FRG-GOH BILATERAL SESSION WITH SCHMIDT. WHEN BONN, THROUGH SAME INFORMAL CHANNEL INDICATED WILLINGNESS MEET WITH HUNGARIAN PRIME MINISTER LAZAR, GASPAR QUICKLY CORRECTED ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION ON FRG SIDE AND MADE IT TRANSPARENTLY CLEAR THAT JANOS KADAR WAS THEIR MAN.
- 3. AT SCHMIDT-KADAR MEETING, LATTER DESCRIBED GOH'S RELATIONS WITH FRG AND ITALY AS EXEMPLARY AND TOTALLY IN SECRET

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HARMONY WITH CSCE PRINCIPLES; FIRST SECRETARY WENT ON TO

EXPRESS HOPE THAT BUDAPEST WILL SUCCEED IN EXPANDING ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHER WEST EUROPEAN STATES TO SAME SATISFACTORY LEVEL. ACCORDING HUNGARIANS, SCHMIDT GAVE ASSURANCES THAT BONN WOULD ATTEMPT IN EC COUNCILS TO MODIFY COMMUNITIES' BEEF IMPORT BAN; AND CHANCELLOR INVITED FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BIRO TO VISIT BONN IN OCTOBER FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES, AN INVITATION THAT WAS IMMEDIATELY ACCEPTED. KADAR INVITED SCHMIDT TO PAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO BUDAPEST IN 1976, BUT CHANCELLOR BEGGED OFF CITING PRESS OF OFFICIAL MEETINGS, UPCOMING ELECTIONS, ETC. SCHMIDT THEN INVITED KADAR TO VISIT BONN; KADAR ACCEPTED WITH ALACRITY BUT NO DATE WAS FIXED. HOWEVER, WE HAVE HEARD AT SECOND-HAND FROM A HUNGARIAN SOURCE THAT GOH THINKING IN TERMS OF MARCH OR APRIL 1976 TRIP.

4. COMMENT: JANOS KADAR'S VISIT TO BONN, IF IT COMES OFF, WILL TO OUR KNOWLEDGE BE HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VENTURE ON BILATERAL MATTERS, WITH EXCEPTION OF HIS TWO VISITS TO HELSINKI (SEPT. 1973 AND JULY 1975), OUTSIDE HIS "SOCIALIST WORLD".

MCAULIFFE

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